

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE** Contact: Ernie Seneca Date: December 9, 2002 Phone: (919) 733-5612

GOV. EASLEY DENIES CLEMENCY IN CARTER CASE

RALEIGH—Gov. Mike Easley today denied the clemency request of Desmond Keith Carter, a convicted murderer scheduled for execution at 2:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2002.

Carter is on death row for the March 9, 1992 murder of 71-year-old Helen Moore Purdy in Rockingham County. Carter confessed to the killing of Mrs. Purdy, whom he stabbed multiple times.

"Having carefully reviewed the clemency petition, I conclude that there are no compelling reasons to invalidate the sentence recommended by the jury and affirmed by the courts," Easley said.

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